

THE LONGSHIP





THE LONGSHIP

VOLUME IV NO. 1

THIS ISSUE IS DEDICATED TO OUR NEW EXECUTIVE BOARD.

THE VIKING OFFICERS FOR THE UPCOMING YEAR ARE AS FOLLOWS:

SAM J.	PRESIDENT
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KEN B.



THE PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I extend my thanks to everyone for their vote of confidence at the elections. I hope I prove worthy of the trust that has been placed in me.

It would seem that this is the time for the annual tightening of belts, forgetting past differences, and joining together for the task at hand; maintaining our position as the foremost Boston club--at home, and in the cities of our Brother Clubs.

Following the tradition established by my predecessors I have selected a presidential name from Viking mythology and history. I have selected FREYR. It is not a name of an heroic, warlike, feared god, but rather the name of the Viking god of fertility and prosperity, a benevolent but firm god. It is my hope that with the blessing of FREYR, the Vikings flourish and prosper in the year ahead. I speak not of a monetary prosperity, but rather a prosperity of brotherhood and ideals as set down in the Vikings Purpose.

I ask you at this time to re-dedicate yourself to this Vikings Purpose--"to further the cause, enjoyment and benefits of motorcycling and related activities...to improve the image of motorcyclists and motor cycle clubs...with loyalty to the group...to aid, assist and encourage fellow members...in matters pertaining to the common goal." Do not fear that because our primary purpose relates to motorcycling we have no place in other masculine activities. A diversified activity schedule reflects the individuality of our members and allows us to share in the pleasures of varied interests. However, remember always that our foundation is motorcycling and the strength of the house lies in its foundation.

The house we have built on this foundation is held together by our constitution. The dictionary defines constitution as: the fundamental law of an organized body of men. Our Constitution, the fundamental law of the Vikings, has been written and amended by the Vikings. It is an expression of our will, and insures equal and fair treatment to everyone. Something may be appealing, Something may be convenient, Someone may be groovy, or it may be the popular whim of the moment--but if it doesn't groove with the Constitution we should abandon it and seek another way. If any article in the Constitution becomes outmoded, there are provisions for change. To ignore the Constitution is foolhardy; its purpose is to protect you. I want the Vikings to go forward as a club, with direction, with organization, and with constitutional order. Therefore, during my term of office, the Constitution will be my constant guide. It is, after all, our Viking Heritage.

Fraternally,

FREYR

LEIF ERIKSON

During the last year, runs on the East Coast have been getting better and better and now we find that all the superlatives have been used in describing other runs. However, at the risk of sounding repetitious, we must say that if the comments of our guests were accurate -- then Leif Erikson was as superior a run as has ever been given.

Thursday evening and all day Friday the guests arrived from all points of the compass. They arrived by train, plane, automobile, motorcycle -- and rumor has it that one even arrived on roller skates! At Boston's historical Rowes Wharf they gathered for registration and an evening cruise of the harbor. Later, everyone returned to old faithful, The Shed, for a midnight buffet and plenty of liquid refreshment!

Saturday morning dawned with ominous clouds and the entire entourage departed for the camp site. This was the Vikings first outing at High View -- but it will certainly not be their last. The tents were erected atop a high hill in the midlands of Massachusetts and it wasn't long before everyone was settled in. In the future, if any more campers, trailers or tents arrive, the Vikings can discontinue their practice of renting so many large tents. The afternoon was highlighted by a much appreciated Entre Nous Cocktail Party. The country air generated hearty appetites and by the time dinner was served everyone was ravenous! The Vikings have long taken pride in being able to serve gourmet meals under primitive outdoor surroundings and this occasion was no exception, with sauerbraten and flagons of beer crowning this beautiful dinner.

"Summer Reruns" was the Saturday night entertainment with many of the clubs participating. It seems this type of participation insures a good time for all. All of the skits were entertaining. However, when the votes of the judges had been tabulated, it was the Centaurs M.C. in third place; M.C. Kemo in second and performing for the first time in the public the Iron Cross was in first position. Saturday night also saw the beginning of the rain which was to continue well into Sunday. Even with the unpleasant weather, morale stayed remarkably high and many non-Vikings pitched in to help with the special problems created by the bad weather. The Vikings extend a grateful thank you to all who helped us during the weekend -- with special thanks to The Great Nipple, Bill S. of the Titan M.C., Skip K. an associate member of Entre Nous and a non-club member from Kansas City -- Jack B.

-more-

Sunday afternoon saw a sumptuous lunch with heaping portions of hot roast beef sandwiches. After lunch the bike events were held with young Bob of the Spartans M.C. destined to win this competition. When the afternoon activities concluded the Titan M.C. treated us to a very lethal cocktail party. It was then once again dinner time and all the guests were summoned to the far end of the command tent. To the strains of "The Entrance of the Gods into Valhalla" they all moved toward the great banquet table. The tent had been decorated befitting the mood and everything seemed to complement the feast. Those who had not attended a previous Leif Erikson could not believe their eyes as they saw the heaping mounds of lobster -- accompanied by turkey breasts and steaming platters of pepper steak. (Something for everyone's taste was the objective.) The meal was set off with salad, vegetables and two choices of wine.

The show on Sunday night was a slide and music presentation following our Wagnerian weekend theme. The slides depicted the "Ring Cycle" (yes, the whole damn thing) and Anna Russell kindly narrated for us. After the show the guests retired to more private areas for the type of entertainment we have all grown so fond of at these functions. The winds, from a storm off the New England coast, added a touch of the dramatic to the evening's activities. It was almost as if the restless spirit of Richard Wagner was present to add the final touches to the night!

Monday provided the most sunny weather of the weekend and after a hearty breakfast it was time for the poker run. Following the poker run came the final speeches and awards. At these awards everyone says a lot of things and this time was no exception.

Highlighting the presentations was a singularly unique banner presented to the Vikings from the M.C. Kemo. It depicts, in stylized form, the banner of Kemo on one side and the Vikings on the other.

Best participation! How do you determine this when you have seventeen clubs present all working towards the ultimate success of a run? The only way is by a point system and when all the points had been counted and recounted it was the SMCLA taking the second place trophy and for the second year in a row the Spartan M.C. taking top honors.

In humble rhetoric the Vikings M.C. thanks you all and we look forward to seeing you here next year, and many times again, before Leif Erikson "73"

C. B.
The Vikings M.C.

LEIF ERIKSON.....

The following are excerpts from club articles in WHEELS MAGAZINE.

"September 1st saw all but three Kemos heading south to Boston for the Leif Erikson Run and from all reports it was, as usual, and, as expected a resounding success. Kemo thanks to the Vikings for a splendid job well done. We were proud to be there." M.C. KEMO

"Chet and Bill W. have nothing but words of praise for the Viking Run. They report great food and camaraderie plus lots of fun despite the inclement weather that weekend." THE PRAETORIANS

"From the boat ride Friday night to the award ceremony on Monday -- we can think of no better way to end a month than to share in the pride and be happy for the success of our brother club's Leif Erikson 72. The Viking Longship took us on a weekend cruise the S.S. United States could not have provided. It had everthing! "
ENTRE NOUS

"The change of seasons, cool of Massachusetts and "Discovery of the Vikings 1972" motivated the Druids north over Labor Day. The Vikings invitation to "taste", gave us a chance to drink of the cup -- the cup of fellowship and friendship. The run was a great success and reflected the hours of hard work necessary to provide for the comfort, care and entertainment of those who were able to attend." THE DRUIDS

"Praise upon merited praise for both the Vikings M.C.'s Leif Erikson and Cycle M.C.'s Bass River already leap from these pages. Our condolences go out to those of you who had to miss either or both of these hoedowns." VULCANS R.C.

"The Viking M.C.'s Leif Erikson run was a fantastic experience for us all. This was the first major run where the Thunderbolts M.C. competed on bikes with five of our members attending. Our congratulations go to Viking president Skip C. and his crew for their tremendous efforts and achievements. We were all impressed with the organization, planning and culinary skills of their members."
THE THUNDERBOLTS M.C.

"As I write this, I am listening to Wagner's Tannhauser Overture with many fine memories of the Vikings run. It was indeed well put together. Congratulations Vikings and thanks for making our stay very enjoyable. Our club was proud to receive your banner. The Iron Cross is always proud to associate with clubs that work their tails off to get things done." IRON CROSS M.C.

The members are urges to read the "Leif Erikson" articles both in TREAD and NOUS LETTRE.

SPECIAL NOTE: Keep in mind the President's Harvest Dinner and bring all those white elephants and trade them in for pink ones. Nov. 18th.

FROM THE EDITOR.....

The purpose of The Longship in the future will be to bring out on the first meeting date every other month a timely newsletter. This publication will not strive to be elaborate, but will attempt to reflect current ideas and activities.

All officers are urged to use our newsletter as a means of communicating to the general membership and everyone is invited to contribute articles and suggestions. No member will be pressured to contribute, however, it is only logical that more participation will enhance the interest in The Longship.

It will be our objective to keep the expenses of the newsletter modest with perhaps twice a year (Leif Erikson and BO-2) being a little more costly.

The normal due date for submitting material will be the Monday meeting every other month. Remember the newsletter is our public relations man in other cities so your efforts and enthusiasm will be greatly appreciated.

* * * * *

THE IMPROPER BOSTONIAN.....

Congratulations to Jim D. for getting his bike on the road. That machine has quite a history and it's sure that Jim will give it a great deal more.

Will the Crossed Swords ever be the same after the appearance of over twenty fully uniformed Vikings? We doubt it!

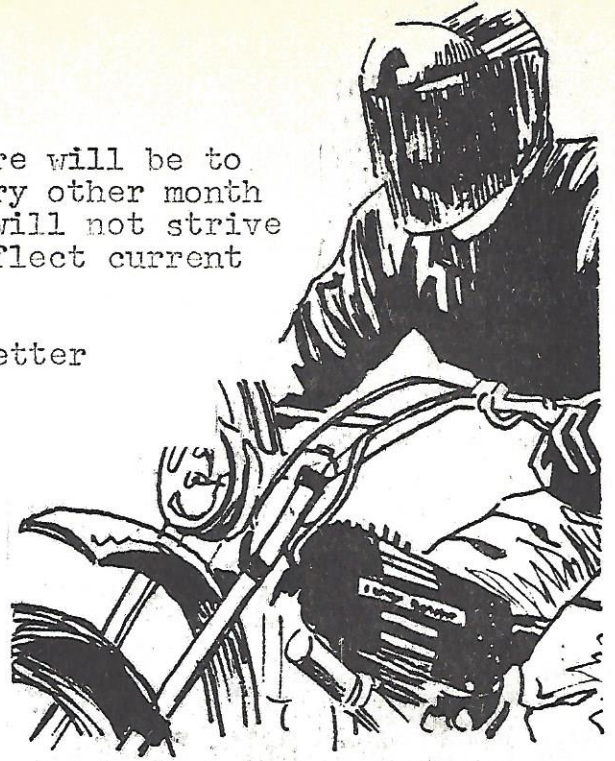
We regret misunderstanding the V.P. recently when he said very excitedly that he had lost it and pointed to his head. It seems that only his leather cap was missing.

Some of the newer members would do well to remember that criticism is best when it is the "self" variety.

We regret being unable to report on P-Town 72 or Titavia but no articles were received from attending members. However, all the reports we have heard about P-Town have been glowing.

Speaking of P-Town, our "host of the month" award goes to Dick and Horace of the Fishermans Cove.

"Guess Who the Pretty Viking Babies Are?" Last issue the little fellow with the dog is David E., the young man on the three wheeled "bike" is Sean O., and finally the baby in front of the castle is Carl B.



RUNS AND EVENTS

Nov 10 - 12	S.M.C.L.A. Autumn Scrambles	Washington D.C.
Nov 18	<u>VIKINGS M.C. Harvest Dinner</u>	Boston
Dec 9	EMPIRE CITY Christmas Party	New York
Dec 26 - Jan 1	CYCLE M.C. Cycle Week	New York
Feb (?)	<u>VIKINGS M.C. BO 2 2273</u>	Boston
March 2 - 7	CYCLE M.C. Real Mardi Gras	New Orleans
March (?)	ENTRE NOUS Days of Equinox	Boston

PURPOSE (FROM THE VIKINGS M.C. CONSTITUTION)

Organized to further the cause, enjoyment & benefits of motorcycling & related activities as a hobby, by a compatible group possessing similar tastes, we affirm our purpose as follows:

With dignity of our endowed masculinity, a prime concern & emphasis is on a gentlemanly manner in an effort effecting an improvement of the image of motor-cyclists & motor-cycle clubs in the eyes of the public.

With loyalty to the group, individuals are expected to aid, assist, & encourage fellow members within the bounds of reason in matters pertaining to the common goals, interests and requirements.

With tolerance toward each other as distinct individuals & personalities, our charity as a group shall be manifested beyond our limits as needs are revealed & made known.

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An excellent way to keep up to date on what other clubs are doing is by reading WHEELS MAGAZINE.

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